



1725  
JAW

JUL 29 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence  
is being deposited with the United States  
Postal Service as first-class mail in an  
envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313  
on this 12 day of July 2004.

By \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink.

John A. Parrish

DKT.NO.: BUN-8601

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

)  
**APPLICANT:** Vandermeer, J. )  
)  
**SERIAL NO.** 10/005881 )      **Art Unit:** 1725  
)  
**FILED:** November 8, 2001 )      **Examiner:** Lin  
)  
**FOR:** Investment Casting Mold and )  
Method of Manufacture )  
)  
)  
)  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 AND 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.98, Applicants submit the document cited on the attached PTO-Form 1449. The reference cited in Form 1449 is briefly discussed below. The reference noted in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an Canadian Office Action. Contrary to allegations made in the office action, this reference is not prior art. In this connection, the publication date of Duffy is

after applicant's priority date of November 10, 2000. Moreover, even if the effective prior art date of Duffy is Duffy's priority date of 17 March 2000, Duffy nevertheless is not prior art against applicant.

Duffy, at page 4, states --"Alternatively, said fibres may be mixed with said refractory." This disclosure can not be accorded an effective prior art date before Duffy's international filing date of March 9, 2001. In this connection, both Duffy's US priority document 09/677757 (Now US Pat. 6450243) and Duffy's GB priority document 0006581.3 are silent as to applicants claimed dry blends of refractory filler and refractory fiber. Since each of these priority documents is silent re applicant's claimed dry blends, then Duffy's aforementioned disclosure at page 4 is new matter relative to the priority documents. Accordingly, the phrase --"Alternatively, said fibres may be mixed with said refractory." – can not be accorded an effective prior art date before Duffy's international filing date of March 9, 2001. Since Duffy's international filing date of March 9, 2001 is later than applicants priority date of November 10, 2000, Duffy's above-identified disclosure re mixtures of fibers and refractory is not prior art to applicant.

Respectfully Submitted,



John A. Parrish  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No 31, 918  
Ph.: 610 617 8960

<p>Form PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 2-32) Patent and Trademark Office</p> <p><b>INFO</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i></p> <p><i>JUL 29 2001</i></p> <p><i>U.S. PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE</i></p>	ATTY. DOCKET NO. BUN 8601	SERIAL NO. 10/005881
	<b>APPLICANT</b> Vandermeer, J.	
	FILING DATE November 8, 2001	GROUP 1725

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						
AG						
AH						
AI						
AJ						
AK						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL	WO 01/68291	Sept. 20, 2001	WIPO				
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							

EXAMINER INITIALS	OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
AQ		
AR		
AS		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	